County Board OKs 2 advisory referendums opposing statewide tax measures

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Local News
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The Kendall County Board unanimously approved Tuesday evening a pair of advisory referendums opposing two statewide tax measures.

The referendums, opposing the creation of a vehicle mileage tax proposed by the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning to fund transportation infrastructure and opposing the Chicago Federal Reserve's proposal for the creation of a statewide 1 percent property tax to fund the state's pension programs, will be on the Nov. 6 ballot.

The language of the first referendum is: "Should Kendall County oppose the creation of a vehicle mileage tax as proposed by the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning on all motorists on a per mile basis?"

The language of the second referendum is: "Should Kendall County oppose the Chicago Federal Reserve's proposal for the creation of a statewide one percent property tax to fund the state's pension programs?"

County Board Chairman Scott Gryder said the aim of the referendums is to "send a message."

"The board reacted very negatively to the vehicle mileage tax because it would seem that the further out you get from public transportation, the more disproportionately you'd probably get hit by it," he said. "They thought it would be a great way to send a message to just draw a line in the sand and say, this isn't the best for us. And more than just have 10 members of the board send a resolution, let's see what the public will say about it."

Gryder said the proposed statewide property tax would hit residents who are already paying high property taxes in Kendall.

"Kendall County is already among the highest pro rata property taxes in the state, and just adding to that burden is not something any of us want to see happen," Gryder said.